

Application No. 09/977,984

~~Examiner's~~ Amendments to Application

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Proposed Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims is proposed to replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Cancelled)

Claim 2. (Cancelled)

Claim 3. (Withdrawn)

Claim 4. (Withdrawn)

Claim 5. (Withdrawn)

Claim 6. (Cancelled)

Claim 7. (Withdrawn)

Claim 8. (Cancelled)

Claim 9. (Withdrawn)

Claim 10. (Cancelled)

Claim 11. (Cancelled)

Claim 12. (Proposed Amendment) A method of establishing a label switched path (LSP) over a MPLS routing domain, ~~established within an IP over ATM network~~, comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving a LSP setup request for connecting an ingress node in said MPLS routing domain with an egress node;
- (b) defining a unique LSP ID for said LSP and establishing a signalling link between said ingress and egress node, by creating a label distribution protocol (LDP) session at said ingress node, egress node and each hop along said LSP;
- (c) associating all said LDP sessions to said LSP; and
- (d) establishing said LSP for transmitting traffic along said LSP between said ingress and egress nodes by
providing at said ingress node a retry timer tracking an interval of time based on a back off mechanism for enabling successive attempts to establish said LSP at increasing retry intervals;

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selecting one record from a list of record relating to a plurality of requests for ~~connections~~ LSPs;

attempting to establish a ~~connection~~ LSP relating to said one record; ~~said connection being related to said LSP~~; and

if said ~~connection~~ LSP relating to said one record is established, then marking said one record as being successfully ~~connected~~ established, otherwise re-attempting to establish said ~~connection~~ LSP at said increasing time intervals, each of said successive increasing time interval being greater than a last interval ~~by said regular interval of time~~.

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein said retry timer provides an initial retry interval of T seconds, and each next successive retry interval is longer than a previous period of time by T seconds.

Claim 14. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 13 wherein the sum of the increasing retry intervals does not exceed a maximum time value.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 13 wherein said LSP is a signaling LSP.

Claim 16. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 13 wherein T is 10 seconds.

Claim 17. (Cancelled)

Claim 18. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein:
each record of said list of records includes a respective time field; and
said selecting one record from said list comprises, at each said increasing retry interval
and for said each record in said list of records:
decrementing a time value stored in said each respective time field; and

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if the time value for any said each respective time field is zero, then selecting the record associated with the any said each respective time field as said one record.

Claim 19 (Proposed Amendment) The method as claimed in claim ~~17~~, 12, wherein said re-attempting to establish said ~~connection~~ LSP occurs only if the sum of the increasing retry intervals does not exceed a maximum time value.

Claim 20. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 19 wherein said maximum time value is sixty seconds.

Claim 21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein said step (b) comprises: establishing at least another signaling link between said ingress and egress node, and selecting one of said signaling link and said another signaling link utilizing a round robin algorithm.

Claim 22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising not selecting any of said signaling links whenever said network does not have sufficient resources for establishing one of said signaling links.

Claim 23. (Withdrawn)

Claim 24. (Withdrawn)

Claim 25. (Withdrawn)

Claim 26. (Withdrawn)

Claim 27. (Withdrawn)

Claim 28. (Withdrawn)

Claim 29. (Withdrawn)

Claim 30. (Withdrawn)

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